

# CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION

## Urban Trails Committee (UTC)

### Minutes May 8, 2018

#### Called to Order

Meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by Chair, Kristin Heumann. Those present from the Committee were:

Dr. Kristin Heumann, Chair	David Lehman, Vice-Chair
Gary Stubler	Orin Zyvan
Sarah Johnson	Biz Collins

Also present Kathy Portner and Paul Jagim with City of Grand Junction, Vara Kusal, Horizon Drive Business Improvement District, Bennett Boeschstein, Mayor Pro Tem, Mathew Luceo - Public and Michele Rohrbach.

**Announcement** – Michele should have Colorado Riverfront Concert Series ticket packets for everyone in the next day or two.

Biz stated Partners is looking for volunteers to bike with the kids throughout the summer.

Sarah said that David and Orin are contributing to a blog on Healthy Mesa County's website.

**Approval of Minutes** – Will need to approve April minutes at June meeting.

**Bike Month Activities** – Weather impacted number of riders this year. City had more sign up this year, but fewer participated. Thinks there were about 200 riders based on the number of breakfasts served. School District had a big group. County had a good size group. St. Mary's won large employer, Library won their category, Rivers Edge West took small business and Cart in Factory took the smallest business. Afterglow was well attended. Vara said Horizon Drive participation was low. Fruita's looked to be well attended for the early morning ride based on what was shown on TV.

Tomorrow is Biking and Walking to School Day – Biz dropped off prizes to several schools participating. In addition to the elementary schools, Palisade High School and two middle schools will be participating this year.

Next week is the biking movie at the Avalon. The following week will be the Plunge fundraiser in Palisade. End of month activity will have music, activities and food trucks and commuter challenge awards will be presented.

**Bike/Ped Counts** – David summarized the bike/ped count plans and requested additional volunteers.

**Community Streets Event – October 20<sup>th</sup>** – The date and time was confirmed for October 20<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Bicycle Colorado might coordinate a half-day event they want to do on the Western Slope with the Community Streets Event. Dr. Daniel Slater with St. Mary’s also wants to participate and would like to do a Wellness Conference the day before for medical professionals and then something on Saturday.

There was some discussion about concentrating the closure on 10<sup>th</sup> Street. Gary suggested the need to better define what Community Streets means for marketing to the public, such as “festival” or “spectacular”.

**Bicycle Friendly Community/Walk Friendly Community** – Kathy said the Bicycle Friendly Community application is due August 9<sup>th</sup> and the Walk Friendly Community application deadline is December 15<sup>th</sup>. Paul and Kathy will work on what they can and ask for help in other areas. Both designations are included in the City Council’s Strategic Plan.

**Updates:**

- **Development Priorities** – no new projects to share with the group.
- **Citizens Request for Improvements** – nothing to share with the group.
- **Circulation Plan/Complete Streets Policy** – The plan will be going before the Planning Commission on May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00pm. Kathy said it would be great to have a letter from Urban Trails in the packet. It would also be beneficial to have as many people there to support. David said he will draft a letter and get it out to everyone for review and comment.
- **SRTS project funding** – Council will be hearing this on the 16<sup>th</sup> and have recommended funding two projects: Grand Avenue intersection improvements at 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> and sidewalk on one side of Pinyon Avenue, which were UTC’s #2 and #3 priorities. Council directed staff to find a way to utilize other funds to complete the improvements at Bookcliff Middle School, which was UTC’s #1 priority.

**Other Business/Innovative Ideas/Public Comment** – Orin showed some photos of pop outs along Grand Avenue. Paul likes what he sees and he hopes to keep the project from being to “engineery” and press the City’s Engineering Department to give the project special consideration.

Paul talked about Bike to Work riding with his son from Orchard Mesa along 7<sup>th</sup> Street. Luke won’t ride in the street unless there is a marked bike lane. He stated that they were waiting at the light and pressed the button like a pedestrian and witnessed a car make a right turn on red but the driver wasn’t even paying attention and never saw them on the sidewalk at the light. Alternative treatments for this section of 7<sup>th</sup> Street will be discussed at the next meeting.

Orin and Paul described the work they are doing on a biking guide and wayfinding. One idea for wayfinding is to have a series of colored strands for different routes, such as purple for Taeguache trailhead, blue for Riverfront and maroon for CMU.

Orin talked about what Durango has done and wondered if could get someone that worked on the project to come talk to the group or perhaps Skype during one of the UTC's meetings. Kathy said could find funds to cover them to come talk to the group.

**Public Comment** – There was not public comment.

**Adjournment** – Adjourned at 6:42pm.

**Future agenda:**

Signage/Wayfinding

Grand Avenue/9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> design– December or January

CDOT's I-70B design—August

7<sup>th</sup> Street bike lane design ideas—June

Workplan Check-in—June